Regularising forest land for agricultural purpose

2036. SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to regularise the forest lands used by Adivasis for agricultural purpose;

(b) whether it is a fact that in tribal zone nearly 60 per cent of the land is covered by forest; and

(c) what is the proportion of land holdings of the adivasis in tribal zones?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (**Capt. JAI NARAIN PRASAD NISHAD**): (a) Central Government have issued detailed guidelines to State/Union Territory Governments for submitting proposals under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for regularising encroachments on forest lands prior to 25-10-1980.

(b) and (c) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

लम्बी दूरी वाली रेलगाड़ियों में खान-पान सेवा

2037. **श्री राधाकिशन मालवीय:** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) न्यूनतम कितने किलोमीटर चलने वाली लम्बी दूरी की रेलगाड़ियों में खान-पान और रसोई भंडार यान सेवाएं उपलब्ध कराई जाती हैं;

(ख) तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) इस प्रकार की प्रत्येक रेलगाड़ी के प्रस्थान तथा आगमन स्टेशन कौन-कौन से हैं तथा उन रेलगाड़ियों के प्रस्थान और आगमन का निर्धारित समय क्या है; और

(घ) क्या अपर्याप्त खान-पान सेवाओं के कारण यात्रियों को होने वाली असुविधा के संबंध में कोई सर्वेक्षण कराया गया है और पर्याप्त खान-पान सेवाएं उपलब्ध कराने के लिए क्या कदम उठाए गए हैं तथा उठाए जाने का विचार है?

रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सतपाल महाराज): (क) और (ख) किलोमीटरों में कोई न्यूनतम दूरी निर्धारित नहीं की गई है. लम्बी दूरी की गाड़ियों में पैन्ट्री कार और खानपान सेवाओं की व्यवस्था, गाड़ी की महत्ता, चालन समय, ठहरावों, मार्गवर्ती स्थायी यूनिटों से खानपान सेवाओं की पर्याप्तता, समय आदि को ध्यान में रखकर की जाती है जो पेन्ट्री यानों की उपलब्धता तथा गाड़ी की अधिकतम अनुमेय भार पर निर्भर करता है.

(ग) सूचना इकट्ठी की जा रही है और सभा पटल पर रख दी जाएगी.

(घ) उन यात्रियों के लिए खानपान सेवाएं, मार्गवर्ती स्टेशनों पर स्थित स्थायी खानपान यूनिटों से पर्याप्त रूप से पूरी की जाती है, जो उन गाड़ियों में यात्रा करते हैं, जिनमें पैन्ट्री यान सुविधाओं की व्यवस्था नहीं की गई है. खानपान अधिकारियों/निरीक्षकों के माध्यम से किए जाने वाले निरीक्षणों के दौरान इसकी निगरानी की जा रही है.

Flood Situation In Assam

2038. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE:
SHRI MATANG SINH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the unprecedented flood in Assam in the swollen Brahmaputra and its tributaries which have claimed several lives and rendered thousands of people homelsss and if so, what are the details thereof;

(b) how much assistance has been provided to the State Government and the details of measures taken to ensure that the assistance is utilised for that purpose; and

(c) whether Government propose to make some special concession with regard to release of flood relief funds for this State the same being the worst sufferer from the perennial scourge of floods?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA (a) According to reports received from the Government of Assam, floods in June-July, 1996, have so far affected a population of 25.84 lakhs in 3587 villages

of 17 districts. The floods have also claimed 19 human lives and damaged 53.0 houses.

(b) Government of India have released two instalments of the Central share of the Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) for 1996-97 amounting to Rs. 18.755 crores. Government of India have laid down the list of items, the expenditure on which alone will be chargeable to the CRF. The accountant Generals are required to see that only expenditure on the items approved by the Government of India is booked to the CRF.

(c) It has been decided to depute a Central Team to the State to assess the situation caused by floods and give its recommendations.

Aerial Survey of the Forest Cover in Andhra Pradesh

2039. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any aerial survey has been done of the forest cover in Andhra Pradesh in 1995-96;

(b) what were the conclusions from this aerial or satellite survey;

(c) whether the forest cover has not recovered in Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) the steps proposed to increase vigilance on forest depletion in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAIN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Special Rice Production Schemes In Madhya Pradesh

2040. SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the districts of Madhya Pradesh included under the special rice production schemes;

(b) whether any specific assistance has been provided to the frarmers of the state under this scheme;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the names of the development blocks in Bilaspur and Raipur districts being benefited therefrom; and

(e) the assistance provided so far?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) For rice development all the rice growing districts of Madhya Pradesh are covered under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes "Integrated Cereals Development programmes in Rice Based and Coarse Cereals Based Cropping Systems Areas" (ICDP-Rice & ICDP Coarse Cereals)

(b) and (c) Under the schemes, assistance provided to farmers includes incentive on certified seeds and identified improved farm implements. Besides, field demonstration and farmer's trainings are also being organised in the identified low productivity blocks.

(d) Through ICDP-Rice all the development blocks in Bilaspur and Raipur districts and being benefitted.

(e) The assistance provided includes incentives on certified seed and identified bullock drawn and manually operated improved farm implements. Besides, field demonstrations and farmers trainings are also being organised in the identified blocks.

UGC Research projects

2041. DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether paucity of funds is a major hurdle for research scholars all over the country;